

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 NIC-01 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /152 W
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SUBJ: PERONIST LEFT-RIGHT DISSENTION CONTINUES

REF: BA 7873

1. RECENT CONFLICT BETWEEN LEFT-RIGHT FACTIONS IN PERONISM (SEE REFTTEL) ENGENDERED BY PURIFICATION ORDER APPEARS TO BE REACHING A RESOLUTION IN MENDOZA, WHILE IN BUENOS AIRES A CONSEJO DECISION ON THE CAMPORA/CANO CASES HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT WEEK. IN MENDOZA, MARTINEZ BACA, EXPELLED FROM THE MOVEMENT BY THE LOCAL CONSEJO, RESISTED WITH SOME SUCCESS THE PARTY PRESSURE, THEN SUDDENLY IN MOVE TO END CRISIS, ANNOUNCED HIS CABINET HAD RESIGNED (PRESEUMABLY ON HIS ORDERS). CRUCIAL MISSING FACTOR IN COMPLEX EQUATION IS ATTITUDE OF PERON WHO HAS THUS FAR AVOIDED PUBLIC PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION WITH EITHER SIDE IN STRUGGLE. END SUMMARY.

2. AS REPORTED REFTTEL MARTINEZ BACA'S REFUSAL TO PURGE ALLEGED MARXISTS IN MENDOZA GOVERNMENT HAD LED TO SHOWDOWN BETWEEN JUSTICIALISTAS AND BACA. IN FRONTAL ASSAULT ON BACA, LOCAL PERONIST CONSEJO ANNOUNCED MONDAY THAT IT HAD EXPELLED HIM FROM THE MOVEMENT AND THAT PARTY WOULD WITHDRAW ITS
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SUPPORT OF HIS ADMINISTRATION AT ALL LEVELS. THIS DECISION

WAS THEN REFERRED TO THE NATIONAL CONSEJO. FURTHER BLOW TO BACA WAS CGT DECISION TO HOLD A 24 HOUR STRIKE ON OCT 30, PROTESTING BACA'S OBDURANCE IN REFUSING TO PURGE MARXISTS.

3. LATE TUESDAY IT APPEARED BACA WAS WAGING A SPIRITED AND PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL COUNTER CAMPAIGN AGAINST HIS CONSEJO AND CGT ADVERSARIES. IN CONGRESS A FACTION OF PERONIST DEPUTIES DECLARED THEIR SUPPORT FOR BACA (INCLUDING THE CAMARA PRESIDENT WHO IS ALSO UNDER CONSEJO FIRE), TWO UNIONS (PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND BANKERS) SAID THEY WOULD DEFY THE STRIKE (CHARACTERIZING IT AS TOTALLY POLITICAL) AND THE MENDOZA POLICE DECLARED THEY WOULD GUARANTEE WORKERS' RIGHT TO WORK IF THEY WISHED. AFTER A MARATHON NEGOTIATING SESSION MONDAY NIGHT, THE CGT CALLED OFF THE STRIKE FOR TUESDAY-- A SEEMING BACA VICTORY. ONLY DEVELOPMENT TUESDAY (OCT 30) WAS MARTINEZ BACA'S SUDDEN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED THE RESIGNATION OF HIS CABINET AND WOULD CONSULT WITH ALL SECTORS IN MENDOZA, INCLUDING CONSEJO AND CGT, IN RECONSTRUCTING IT. (COMMENT: FOR THE MOMENT IT APPEARS THE CRISIS IN MENDOZA HAS PASSED, THOUGH IT IS STILL TOO EARLY TO DETERMINE THE WINNERS OR LOSERS IN THIS FRAY, MUCH LESS ITS WIDER SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE NATIONAL PURIFICATION DRIVE.)

4. IN BUENOS AIRES, THE NATIONAL CONSEJO HAS AGREED TO PUT OFF UNTIL NEXT WEEK ITS DECISION ON WHETHER EX-PRESIDENT CAMPORA AND CORDOBA GOVERNOR CANO HAVE SATISFACTORILY ANSWERED CHARGE THAT THEY ADHERED TO INSULTS TO PERON (REFTEL). INTERESTINGLY, NEITHER FREJULI SENATE LEADER MARTIARENA NOR 62 ORGANIZATIONS LEADER LORENZO MIGUEL WOULD MAKE SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS ON THE SITUATION WHEN CORNERED BY NEWSMEN AS THEY LEFT A CONSEJO MEETING WHICH PERON ATTENDED. NEWSMEN ASKED IF THE ANTI-CAMPORA ADVERTISEMENTS HAD CONSEJO BLESSING AND LORENZO MIGUEL, WHOSE 62 ORGANIZATIONS PAID FOR MANY OF THE ADVERTISEMENTS, SAID "ITS A NEWSPAPER CAMPAIGN, NOT A CONSEJO CAMPAIGN". MARTIARENA SIMILARLY TOOK A NON-COMMITAL POSITION ON THE MENDOZA CASE, DEFERRING COMMENT UNTIL A CONSEJO MEMBER HAD REPORTED OFFICIALLY ON THE MATTER TO THE MOVEMENT.

5. COMMENT: THE POLARIZATION OF THE MENDOZA MOVEMENT SOWS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN MICRO-COSM WHAT CAN OCCUR IF PURIFICATION EFFORT IS MISHANDLED BY OFFICIALIST SECTOR OF PARTY. FOR SHORT WHILE BEFORE BACA CABINET RESIGNED, SPECTRE OF LEFTIST PERONIST GOING INTO OPPOSITION WHILE MAINTAINING OFFICIAL POSITIONS WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT SHOULD HAVE GIVEN CONSEJO PAUSE. GREAT MODERATING FACTOR IN ENTIRE COMPLEX SITUATION IS FACT THAT WHILE PERON HAS APPEARED TO BE SIDING WITH RIGHT, HE HAS NOT PUBLICLY PROCLAIMED POSITION AND CAN STILL USE PERSONAL

PRESITIGE TO AVERT A SCHISM-PRODUCING SHOWDOWN, IF THAT
BECOMES NECESSARY.
LODGE

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